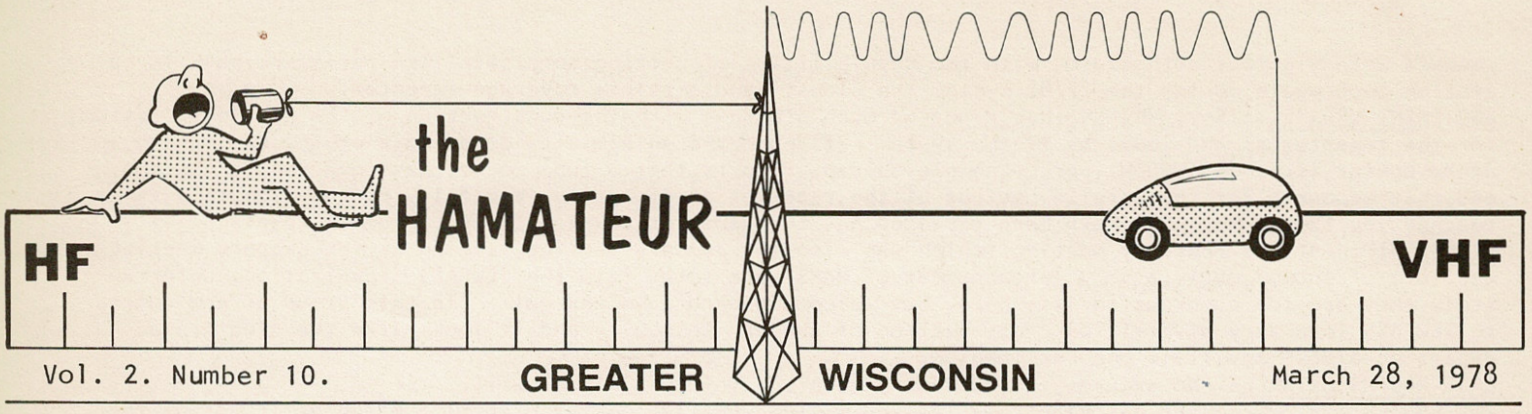


Vol. 2. Number 10. GREATER WISCONSIN March 28, 1978

# the HAMATEUR

The HAMATEUR is published monthly for the benefit of amateurs represented by the associated and sponsoring clubs. Reproduction with credit given, is granted for anything appearing within THE HAMATEUR. Deadline date to submit material for the month is the **5th.** Publication date is the 28th.

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## WA9 Just Mouthing Off

FOX HUNT Looking for another way to enjoy your two way radio, with a touch of adventure added? If so, why not organize a fox humt. Saturday nights 9 to 11 pm and/or Sunday's 2 to 4 pm appear to be nice jumping off points. All it really takes is for or five mobiles--someone riding shotgun is helpful but not a neccessity, a receiver with a fairly good signal strength meter and a good antenna. A direction finding antenna such as appeared in the April 1977 issue of the Hamateur is even more helpful--,a fox to hide and a few basic rules to play the game by. Along with the fun, an experience is gained for possible future use in tracking down illegal transmitters. Two meter FM seems like the band and mode to use. Many of the Ten meter FM Hunters are around as well as those from the early days of C.B. when channel one was used for the Saturday night rabbit humt. If this tickles your fancy and you would like to give it a try, give me a call. I will be happy to act as a focal point until someone interested in assuming the tole of organizer pops up...Let me know.

Technical Articles During the past two years we have all enjoyed and hopefully learned a thing or two from the fine technical material that has appeared in the HAMATEUR. But now our tech Editor is running low, his supply is about exhausted. To keep from cribbling articles intact from our commercial amateur publication to fill these needs, I would like to turn to Our own club members. I would like to see each club take on the responsibility to contribute two technical articles per year. The articles and related drawings-- diagrams should be neat and labeled to eliminate possible errors if Steve has to redraw them-- and send to our tech editor: Steve Reyer, WA9VNJ whose address is listed on the top of this paper.

Looking for a Challenge The HAMATEUR is currently looking for individuals interested in lending their talents to the publication of this newsletter. Topmost on our list is a person who would like to "paste up" the HAMATEUR. This involves taking the typed articles, arranging their order of appearence and pasting them down on cardboard. The position entails about ten hours a month. We also need a person or persons willing and able to procure commercial advertisement for the paper. Rate cards, cover letters, and back issues are available to aid in your task. If interested, give me a call.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR Here is your opportunity to express your opinions in writing. How do you feel abour the way our repeaters are operated? What would you like to see changed in the HAMATEUR? Anything elxe bothering you? Let us help you share it with the rest of the Ham community. Drop your comments to me by the tenth of the month you would like them to appear in.

NOVICE CLASS BEGINNING On Wednesday, April 19, 1978 a novice class will be conducted at the Waukesha Savings and Loan, Main Street, Mukownago, at 7:30 pm. If interested, contact Lee, WB9TPD or Steve, WA9WYF on the 93/33 machine.

73's Larry McCalvy WA9JMO

## CLUB News

146.22 IN SOUTH EASTERN WISCONSIN FM AMATEUR REPEATER SOCIETY 146.82 OUT

MEETING: April 27, 1978, Thursday night at 7:30 pm, WTMJ Studios, 720 East Capitol Drive. Many things from 6 meters to 450 to be discussed at this meeting. I personally would not want to miss the goings on at this one. Many things lie ahead with the thawing of our world. Antenna projects are once again

renewed with vigorous enthusiasm, with the possibilities of getting some satellite recievers back in operation once again making the 22/82 system the widest handie-talkie coverage repeater.
EQUIPMENT UPDATES: Roy, WB9RKN, has reported much progress with the construction of the new logic system for the repeater(s) and looks as if the system will have the possibility of doing anything anyone can dream up for it. Bob, W900W, our reknown president reports that a tube socket has gone bad in the amp and that accounts for the very low output of the repeater as of lately, hopefully by the time this issue reaches you the socket will have been replaced and the repeater power back up to normal levels.
MEMBERSHIP: At the February meeting (which was also the January meeting, seeing as the January meeting was sort of snowed out), a very large number of HAMS were voted into the SEWFARS organization, unfortunately they are too numerous to list here, but welcome aboard guys and gals. In this group of new comers to SEWFARS is a very diversified cross-section of the HAM Community and it looks like the club has an expert on almost any field one can imagine.
LAST MONTHS ARTICLE: No excuses intended or presented, I just plain blew it.
NEW ROSTER: A new roster has been compiled and will be available at the April meeting as it was at the February meeting( of course there will probably be a very large additions sheet available by that time also.)
QRM & MALICIOUS INTERFERENCE: Not only on 22/82 but all the local repeaters interference is becoming a very big problem. It seems some person or persons have decided instead of turning the on-off switch on their rig when they are not enjoying the conversation on the air at the time, have found that by setting the rig in the transmit mode that it not only removes the conversation from their end but from everyone, importantly the parties in QSO. Norm, WB9PCQ, and a group of devoted HAMS (3 or 4) seem to be the only ones around who are trying to do anything to stop this practice. Not only is it very disturbing to hear on the HAM Bands it is very illegal. Let's all do our part, if you are interferred with or hear someone else being interfered with, go to the input frequency and track the party responsible down, don't just sit by and say that sooner or later they'll get bored and go away. Although this is true it's not the proper attitude, because the jammer will be back again, and who knows maybe next time it'll be your QSO that is bothered. GET OFF YOUR #&*! AND DO SOMETHING!!!!!

73. Gregg WD9DHI

147.87 IN — LAKESHORE REPEATER ASSOCIATION — 147.27 OUT

The next regular meeting of the Lakeshore Repeater Association will be held on April 25, 1978, Red Cross Building, 4521 Taylor Ave., Racine, Wi.
By the time you receive this copy of HAMATEUR the paid up members of the association should have returned their marked ballots to the club secretary. This mail vote will determine the approval or non approval of proposal 1 and proposal 2. Report, on voting results, will be availabel at our April meeting.
BRIGHT SIDE K9AAY, Roscoe Wolvington, has been able to return to most activities after his surgery. Should be back in Hand Ball competition before too long.
NEW APPOINTEE: WB9LST, Ray Wolfe, has been appointed the Emergency Coordinator for the Kenosha area.
BREAKFAST NOTE: The February, Sunday morning breakfast meeting of Racine and Kenosha hams was held at the Kenosha Holiday Inn. 48 hams and XYL's were in attendance. We had our own meeting room and the food was good. This may be the new home for the monthly breakfast meeting.
XYL'S: The Lakeshore Repeater Association has the following Gal's as members. All have licenses. Myrtle Sus(WA9CCV), Jeanette Buege(WA9CFY), Goldie Deganais(WB9UQN), Bonnie Haney(WB9ZKX), Vernice Ostman(WD9AXU), Fern Fisher(W9LCJ), Grace Welfel(WB9UST).
WELCOME TO THE FOLLOWING NEW MEMBERS: Fred Cundari(W9TQH), Kenosha, WI, Elmer Peterson(WA9QEM), Racine, WI, Donald Lawson(WB9CYY), Racine, WI,Kenneth Painter(WB9UUK), Racine, WI, Thomas J. Christensen(WB9YFU), Racine, WI, and William Dorsey(Call Pending) Kenosha, WI.
OPERATING NOTE: Mobile operators, when you put out a call for a base station, give the operator time to get to the mike. The average base station operator is not standing with mike in hand. He may be fixing the plumbing, eating lunch, or fighting with his wife, so a little patience, before clearing, is appreciated.
Amazingly, the time is here when we can start to think of new antenna installations, increased mobile activity, golf, seed catalogues, wide row planting, and getting the lawn mover fixed. Pleasant Spring thoughts to you all.
CU AT THE APRIL 25th MEETING.

73 Fern (W9LCJ)

146.19 IN — CMØS — 146.79 OUT

I believe last months article began with a comment on how "slow the month had been", I shouldn't have said it but enjoyed it. This month is different.
Many of you may have noticed that the 19/79 has been down for several weeks. Unfortunately, this is not due to malfunction of repeater components but disappearance of.....
The new receiver is working well with good reports received throughout the area, as seen by an increase in activity. One of the major receiver considerations was given to audio quality, and we are very pleased with the results. The overall repeater audio quality is very good.
Well, maybe next month will be quiet.....

73, Scott M. Freeberg WB9WFA

## TRI-COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

Not a heck of a lot to report from the Tri-County bunch. Meeting February 19 was not well attended, but was most interesting. Sherm Carr, John LaBlonde and Roy Pedersen, W9NGT, W9FZC and K9FHI attended and talked on emergency preparedness. Meeting was emceed by Bob Graham, K9SAO, for Walworth Co. Ray Sunderland, K9ANV, showed slides and spoke on the Phillips and Wausau storm disasters and the roles hams played in emergency communications. April meeting at Trinity Lutheran Church, Fort Atkinson, second Sunday, whether afternoon or evening not yet decided.

John O. Satterlee, WA9SAB

3940 KHz — **OZAUKEE RADIO CLUB, INC.** — 146.37/97

MEETING: The next scheduled meeting is Wednesday April 12, 1978. The WR9AAE Repeater Group meets at 7:00 pm and the regular club members start at 7:30 pm. Guest are always welcome, hams or otherwise. All our efforts to promote the club to "Would-Be-Hams", inactive members, or new members, strengthens our organization socially and financially-Please do your part.

MEMBERSHIP: As of the Fevruary 8th meeting our membership totaled 64, which includes four student memberships. Although the membership was closed for the official roster, a supplemental roster will be prepared if warrented by a large increase in the membership.

The communication service conducted by members of the club for the Port Washington Jaycees for their Cross Country Ski Race turned out a successful endeavor, despite the somewhat cool weather. Those suffering the cold the most, so they claimed, were Net-Control, Ed Bach, WA9BMA, and WB9PAS/snowmobile mobile/HT. The rest of us, WA9AWO, WA9USA, WB9OHY, WD9DEN, and myself, braved the cold by remaining in our cars to insure that the heaters kept working properly. The officials of the race expressed their appreciation for a job well done, and requested our help next year.

N9AJ: All of us who frequent 37/97 and "55", have experienced talking with Faustin Prinz, ex-WA9GDA, on a variety of topics, and despite our normal lack of understanding on certain subjects, we can be assured we'll receive his famous words of understanding and compassion-"YOU BIG DUMMY",(which although normally reserved for this writer and WA9USA, Foust plays no favorites.....) his many years with the club has seen him in various positions within the officer ranks of the club. His interests and expertise range from Amateur Radio, to Bee Keeping, as a Gun Smith (he fixes them as expertly as he fires them), reloading, to gardening, Wine Making and Drinking, and Fishing are but afew of the Multi-Talents he is qualified to talk on. When all else is said and done, we can all speak with pride, that Foust is a member of our group-THE OZAUKEE RADIO CLUB.

PARTY RESULTS: The Post Christmas, Post New Years, Post Valentines Day Party held February 25, at the D & G Club in Port Washington. It was to say the least a successful endeavor by its organizers, Russ, WB9PAS, and Ted, W9NHE. The 80+ who attended, experienced excellent food, sufficient fire water at the bar, and entertainment which required many obvious hours of preparation by Russ and Ted, which brought laughs to all. The door prizes were many, and a very good time was had by all, inclucing XYL's. The recipient fo the "NET" Award, failed, again this year, to show up.....

73's Barry Anderson WB9SFK

M·R·A·C — **MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB** — M·R·A·C

MILWAUKEE RADIO AMATEURS' CLUB welcomes interested persons to attend their regular meetings held on the third Thursday of each month (except July and August) at 7:30 pm at Wauwatosa Savings and Loan Building at 7500 West State Street. Plenty of parking. We are in our 60th season! Preceding each meeting, in the period 7 to 7:30 pm, the instructors from our school offer aid to beginners and others with Ham radio problems. MRAC regular meeting, Thursday, April 20, 1978, 7:30 pm, the speaker will be Mr. Paul M Cornell, W8EFW, engineer with Bird Electronic Corporation, Solon, Ohio. Bird Electronic Corporation are the "RF" measurement people and Mr. Cornell will show us how RF should be measured.

Amateur radio is more popular than ever. About 100 people showed up for our latest Classes starting on February 22, 1978. They were divided almost equally between two novice and one general/technician class. I wish to personally thank all those who assisted in the registration and handling of this group. Present were WA9MLY, W9WYJ, W9UGN, W9SNK, W9VLK, and W9RKP. The instructors for these classes are W9MDG, W9YYW, W9ZPV, WB9BWP, and a recent addition W9ZO(Pat).

COMING ATTRACTIONS: May 18th, regular meeting. Our annual auction of amateur equipment and parts. Open to all hams and proteges. No sales or admission charge. No flea market dealers. Get your stuff ready. June-Field Day-Call WA9RYF.

73 Al W9MDG

146-31 IN MILWAUKEE REPEATER CLUB 146-91 OUT

ASK THE QUESTION When contacting a station through a repeater, the question should always be asked: Where are you?, and what equipment are you using? Depending on your equipment, you may be pleasantly surprised that you can move to simplex and enjoy a longer, less interrupted QSO. Try these guidelines for moving to simplex:

Base to base--25 Miles
Base to mobile--15 Miles
Mobile to mobile--10 Miles

NEW MEMBER DUES New members may hoin MRC on a prorated basis. Dues are $1 per month payable to December 31. Thus for April, Pay $9. Send dues to: Milwaukee Repeater Club, P.O. Box 2123, Milwaukee, WI 53201.

OPERATION NON ID Here we go again! The FCC requires identification of your station at the beginning and end of every QSO and once every 10 minutes, NOT AT THE BEGINNING AND END OF EVERY TRANSMISSION.

HARDWARE ACQUISITIONS IN PROGRESS The Technical Committee is investigating the possible purchase of a solid state 80 watt final amplifier as well as a gelled electrolyte type emergency battery.

FOR THIS WE PAY TAXES The GCC is getting close to renewing our repeater license. Ten months ago, an application was submitted to renew WR9ABM as a club station with a new trustee. While the FCC debated the whole concept of repeater licensing, our Form 610 languished. Finally, two months ago, the application was bumped back because their records showed our tower was 410 feet tall and our application showed 400 feet. (I hope no one tells them the tower is going to 500 feet!) Next the application came back because my license, WA9 RYO, was to expire. This occurred despite the fact that I had sent my renewal 1 month earlier with a note that it affected action on the WR9ABM application. Each time the entire pack of paper (some 40 pages of documentation) was returned to me. There was no indication of who in Gettysburg was working on the application so one phone call could straighten everything out. All this time has elapsed for a license renewal where nothing was changed since WR9ABM was originally granted. Think of your governments efficiency when you pay your taxes this April 15.

Al WA9RYO

146-25 IN MILWAUKEE COUNTY REPEATER SOCIETY 146-85 OUT

MEETING: NINO'S, 3400 South 108th Street (next to Doucas Oldsmobile). Tuesday, April 18, 1978, at 8:00pm. Following the meeting will be a discussion on mobile DF antennas and details on conducting a two meter fox hunt. As always, all interested people whether members or not are invited to attend.

Membership Some of this years activities will be limited to members only, so if you have not signed up contact the club treasurer Tom WB9CSK 462-6428.

Club News Starting with the April issue of the HAMATEUR, Don K9QEN will be the 25/85 reporter. Don's telephone number is 281-9294.

Something new On Monday evenings at 10 pm tune in 25/85 for current information.

The new officers are tuning up for some practical goals that are always nice to see in practice on the air and at the meetings; fun, education, and harmony. To this end, the officers are working as a group, not individuals. Coupling this with the enthusiasm of myself and the other officers and the members' interests, I predict an exciting and dynamic future.

Just to get the feel for what is in store, one of the upcoming events is a guided tour through the Lake Geneva Western Union Earth Station. Sound good? Well, the officers are always anxious for more ideas so if you have any comments, recommendations or interest in future programs or tours, please share your thoughts with one of us. After all, we're really a do-it-ourself group; and your ideas and input are necessary for our continuing success.

On behalf of many, I thank the 1977 officers who expended a large portion of their time during the past year to make this a truly successful club; Paul WB9KYR, Bob WB9TFE, Tamar WB9LAA, and Paul W9KHO. Special thanks to the Hamateur Reporter, Bill WB9EFP. Your 1978 officers are; President Lou WB9UYI, Vice President Tom W9VBQ, Secretary Don K9QEN, and Treasurer Tom WB9CSK.

73 Lou Schultz WB9UYI

THE WISCONSIN CHAPTER

QCWA QUARTER CENTURY WIRELESS ASSOCIATION, INC.

We are happy to welcome into our group, Lee J. Hertwig, W9HCL of 1791 Asbury Circle, Green Bay, Wi. 54303, and William U. Witt, N9KY, of 1402 W. Lawn Avenue, Milwaukee, Wi. 53209. Bill is director of Engineering for Channel 18.

Early in February, an awkward slip on snow covered ice put our friend Vic Tressider, W9TQ into the Menomonee Falls Hospital with a fracture of his right leg just above the ankle. He was recuperating at the home of his daughter but now is back in his own "digs". Give him a call at 251-0346 to wish him well.

Our revised and up-dated roster is at the type setter and should go into the mail around March 15th with your invitation to the Miller Inn on April 14th.
Several of our members have been main staying the HAM RADIO SHOW at Mayfair Shipping Center, Milwaukee, March 4 and 5, namely, W9MDG, W9SNK,W9UGN, W9JK, W9VLK and W9VQD. This affair is the brainchild of three young MRAC members attending Wauwatosa West High School. Our QCWA can use their talents in another 24 years.
Don't forget the spring meeting on June 3rd in Green Bay at W9VOW's Downtowner Motel.

73 Travis W9VQD

**6-MIC** **SIX METER INTEREST CLUB** **6-MIC**

I would like to thank our outgoing reporter, Bob Pettigrew, WB9OPD, on behalf of all Six Meter Interest Club members and introduce your new 6-MIC reporter Fred Sanders, WA9KVS.
April 1st is our anniversary date and thats a no-follin. Dues are due, and nominations for next years officers are of the highest priority.
If you are not aware of the net frequency. It is 50.145 MHz, 9pm and your new net control is Adam, WB9IRN. The majority mode is SSB, but other modes are accepted. Other changes concerning meetings, dues, are to be discussed at the next meeting. In the next few months aurora, temperature inversion, and sporadic E type communication will be heard on 6 meters. Northern lights in the sky are excellent in indicating aurora possibilities. Blankets of fog over several states could indicate temperature inversion possibilities and of course those fronts preceeding thunder storms. The next few months will be quite active, so get your beams in shape. June VHF Contest is always more active than not. For aurora you point your beam northeast or to maximum signal.
Starting in next months report, I will attempt to answer quieries of interest. One in each report. Answers will be kept short and concise but the quieries must be concerning amateur radio.

73's Fred WA9KVS

## RACINE MEGACYCLE CLUB

I guess the best way to start this off is to just say hello, so HELLO. Now that we have that over with, I will try to transfer a little information from the mind to the paper via the pen.
Winter is coming to an end (all though you can't prove it by the weather), and 20, 15, and 10 are starting to stay open a little later. DX has been good on all three lately, with KC4's very active on 20 mtr phone at night when the band is open. 10 and 15 meters have been outstanding (and here I sit with a 20 mtr monobander).
WB9BBG, Dick Larson, and his South American house guest, YN4TK, Ted Kelly, were recently treated to a tour of the J. I. Case Corporate Computer Center (compliments of yours truly). Ted is part of the exchange program established between Racine and our sister city in Nicaragua, and is strudying Computer Science at Parkside. Many thanks to J. I. Case and Director of Data Processing, Harold Jones.
Our congratulations to Rees Roberts, K9UUT. Rees has just been elected Emergency Coordinator for Racine County. Let's all give Rees our cooperation in establishing and maintaining viable emergency communication procedures.
Best wishes for a speedy recovery go out to Betty Kehl, Dick Kehl's (WA9HOH) XYL. Poor Dick is waisting away without Betty's fine cooking.
In case you missed the last meeting, committees were set up in preparation for field day, which isn't that far off. Various site locations were discussed, any of which would do well. Rees Roberts, K9UUT, Field Day Coordinator, is checking them out. More details to follow in the next few months.
Well, guess that about does it for this, my first month. I can only submit what I hear, so if you have anything of interest to add, please let me know. See you at the next meeting on April 10th.

73 Jack WB9YLR

**146.07 IN** **MILWAUKEE COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO EMERGENCY SERVICE** **146.67 OUT**

MEETING: Tuesday, April 4, 1978, at 7:00 pm at the Red Cross Building at 26th and Wisconsin Avenue. Assistant EC meeting at 6:30 pm. Final City Emergency Government training session.
NETS: The weekly ARES Net is held Monday night at 9:00 pm on 07/67.
Spring is upon us! Be sure to keep current by checking into the Monday nets and monitoring 07/67 during periods of approaching severe weather. Check KEC 60 (the Weather Service Continuous broadcast on 162.4MHZ) for current weather data. Also be sure to attend the regular May monthly meeting when Elroy Jagler, Meter-

ologist In Charge at the NOAA Milwaukee office, will speak to us on severe weather and the ARES role in assisting the Weather Service.

Last month, on these pages, you will remember that I reviewed the type of reports that you should be prepared to make during a severe weather net. In summary, they are: 1) time of observation, 2) location of weather, 3) source of information, 4) weather observed (a. funnel clouds aloft, b.tornados on the ground, c. Large hail, d. high winds, e actual damage). This month, I will continue with reporting into a severe weather net. The list of five types of weather (actually, four types of weather and one other, actual damage) is all that is wanted by the Weather Service. If some other information is needed, they will ask for it specifically. There fore, please don't report in that, "it is raining here" or "the sky is clear here, now." The Weather Service has a facsimile machine which reproduces the radar plot from Neenah every two minutes. By laying on a plastic overlay, it is possible to locate the storms capable of causing trouble with fair precision. They know that it is probably raining. Furthermore, for severe weather purposes, they usually don't care! What they don't know is whether a particular storm (which, on the radar, looks like it is capable of producing severe weather) has any of the "symptoms" of actual severe weather. Obviously, any system capable of spewing out golf-ball sized hail has a lot of action in it and they will want to know that fact in a hurry. So please stick to the list.

Another point that should mentioned here is the difference between "funnel clouds aloft" and "tornados on the ground." To you and me either one means "duck, fast." But there is a difference to the Weather Service and we must report in the manner they request. A funnel cloud aloft is just that, it has not touched down. And it should be reported as such. If and when it touches down, it is then a tornado. Please keep the difference in mind when making reports.

As an aid in reporting wind speeds, you should use the following as a method for estimating wind speed:

25-31 mph--Large branches moving. Whistling heard in overhead wires.
32-38 mph--Whole trees moving. Inconvenience in walking.
39-46 mph--Small branches and twigs break.
47-54 mph--Slight structural damage. Larger branches and weak limbs break.
55-63 mph--Moderate structural & tree damage.
64 and above--Heavy to severe structural and tree damage.

Our net procedure are abbreviated for a very obvious reason: speed is essential. Time wasted in useless procedures means the flow of messages is slowed and that can result in unnecessary injuries or deaths. So keep it short, and to the point, as follows.

TO CALL NET CONTROL: State your call in phonetics. Co not call "NET CONTROL" or use his call sign. Thus: WB9 ALPHA BRAVO CHARLIE is all that is needed to break in.

NET CONTROL WILL RESPOND: With a simple "go ahead" or, if there might be confusion, "ABC go ahead."

GIVE YOUR MESSAGE: Transmit your report immediately without repeating your call sign. Don't hem and haw and don't insert anything but essential information. Thus, "One-half inch hail started falling at 4:35 pm at Waterford."

NET CONTROL WILL RESPOND: With a simple "ROGER" if the message as received is clear and complete. He will then "drag his heels" to allow Milwaukee Weather to "Roger" your report. If either station is in doubt about the information, the response will be question to which you should immediately reply without waiting and without giving your call sign. When all are satisfied, Net Control will proceed to the next station. Do not try to sign out!

Remeber that ther can be as many as five Priority Stations on frequency. These are:

"STATE WEATHER"--W9NGT--Sherm Carr in Hartford. This station relays data from outside the Milwaukee area.
"EMERGENCY GOVERMENT"--City of Milwaukee Office of Emergency Government at 88th and Lisbon.
"SHERIFF"--Milwaukee County Sheriff's Department.
"RED CROSS"--American Red Cross at 26th and Wisconsin.

Each of these stations is a Priority Station. None will use a call sign, but rather will identify themselves as listed above. None will go through Net Control. All other stations, must, including Net Control, stand by when a Priority Station Transmits. Thus, if you hear "Emergency Government, This is Milwaukee Weather", you should stand by until the exchange is complete. If you are making a severe weather report and get a call for more information from a Priority Station, respond at once to the Priority Station (without asking Net Control). You have identified once at the beginning and that is sufficient during a severe weather net.

One more item: Be extremely cautious. Don't risk injury or death by being foolish. If you see (or have reason to believe) severe weather is in your vicinity, take evasive action or take cover, whichever is appropriate. I don't want to have to report as a Silent Key to QST some zealot who wanted to make one last report from inside the tornado cloud!

Finally, I want to congratulate all who participated in the 1978 Simulated Emergency Test for a job well done. Elroy Jagler, Meterologist In Charge, has asked me to prepare a report for him to forward to his superiors. I know he was happy with the Test. We handled a total of 511 check-ins and 152 relays that afternoon. We had 85 check-ins on the two O'clock nets. I find that amazing and immensely reassuring. I know I can count on you when the real thing comes down the pike. There were 92 check-ins on the six o'clock nets. This consistency is also very gratifying and is another measure of a high and healthy level of interest in ARES activities.

Every amateur who participated deserves individual thanks but that is ovbiously impossible. I will here mention a few amateurs who went our of their way to be of assistance: WB9SFJ, WB9SJI, WB9NNJ, and WA1REL who assisted at the Weather Service and W9IEM, WB9DTM, W9AKY, N9TD, K9UU, K9BBL, K9FHI, and W9NGT who assisted with relays. If I missed anyone, it was unintentional and I am sorry.

Again, congratulations on a good job well done. I know that this type of participation will mean a successful "season" for the ARES statewide and in Milwaukee.

John WB9SMM

# DX News

Hail to all DXers! DXing gets in the blood. It's like muskie fishing or deer hunting--or chasing blonds--the thrill of the chase!
The sunspot cycle is on the upturn and so is the DXing. The Solar Flux readings go up and down like a yo-yo but each swing upward goes higher. Even the 28 MC band is open to some rare spots in our world. The pile-ups are horrendous when a DX station is heard.
The real biggy coming up around March 19th will be the Clipperton operation. The last Clipperton DX-pedition was handled by Danny Weil in 1951 or 1952. Also Abes Island will put in its appearance around March 20th or 22nd--So----Watch for them. Clipperton calls will be FOØ with a two letter suffix beginning with the letter X--such as FOØXA meaning the operator is F9JS, ect. There will be 8 or 10 operators working all bands using split frequencies.
Aves Island will be using the call YVØAA.
Rumors have it that IRAQ will put in its appearance--right now a rare DX country.
WB9FCC/VQ9 on CHAGOS shows up periodically--usually 15 or 20 on SSB.
Far East DX stations such as EP, JY, HZ, 4X4 and YK have been showing early mornings via long path. ZL's and VK's are beginning to appear also together with YJ's and YB's. Another sign that DX conditions are getting better--all this on 14 MC around 1400Z.
The African net is on everyday at 1800Z on 21355KC and every once in a while some rare one will show up on this net--giving you a chance to work him. Another good bet is the Asia net fathered by Bill W7PHO on 14255 KC. This usually starts about 2330Z--climb aboard this one and have some fun working the Dx that shows up on this net.
Walvis Bay--a new country now showing up. Watch for ZS3WBC. Usually on 14MC and 21MC on SSB.
The key to good DXing is to listen, listen, and listen and don't clutter up the DX band with needless calls.
Great days are in store for the DXer--conditions are supposed to be extremely good and peaking during the months of March and April and again in September and October. 1978 is going to be a banner year. Try it! You might even like it! DX--that is---
Greater Milwaukee DX Association

Bill Brossmann W9EQP Brookfield, Wis.

## WISCONSIN REPEATER NEWS

It has been a couple of months since I last wrote about two-meter repeater activity throughout Wisconsin and surrounding states. So I thought I better bring you up-to-date on the latest information available. According to Dave, W9OC, the 146.16/76 repeater at Bessemer, Michigan, is really going great guns across the northern edge of Wisconsin. They have had reports of working the machine down into the Rhinelander area, along Lake Superior to Ashland and Duluth/Superior area, southwest into the Phillips area as well as along the northern shore of Lake Superior up into the Two Harbors, Minnesota area. Speaking of the Phillips area, rumors are strong at this time that a repeater may be installed in that area in the not too distant future. This would help considerably in filling in the big gap between Eau Claire and the Thunder Bay area at Superior. Another development in the center of the state is the installation on the Baraboo tower of a repeater operating on 147.96/36. This repeater is number three under the sponsorship of the Central Wisconsin Repeater Association. The 34/94 machine on the Hill Farms State Office building at Madison is doing very well with the installation of a new DB Products antenna which was put in action a few weeks ago. I get a little intermod from that repeater since I only live seven blocks away but I cannot complain since I am the trustee of that machine. CWRA will have a 450 machine on the same building within the next few months. I'd like to editorialize for a few minutes concerning the willful interference which I experience while operating either 31/91 or 22/82 in the greater Milwaukee area. I am a member of both repeaters and unfortunately, living so far away, I am unable to do much about the interference from Madison. It seems to me that with the number of 2 meter operators in the greater Milwaukee area, that someone could get to the bottom of the source of the information and interference and really DO something about the problem. If you read QST or HAM RADIO, you know that the FCC does something about malicious interference if you have a line on who or whom is causing the interference. How about some of these self-appointed censors getting into the act? Or is everyone satisfied to sit on his hands and do nothing? Think about it!!

73, John W9FZC,CWRA,MRC

Technical Topics

Technical Topics

# WEATHER-ALERT TONE DECODER

Many of us have at least one radio which is used to monitor the local Weather Service radio station or the ARES repeater (07/67), both of which broadcast an alert tone whenever there is severe weather imminent (about 1050 Hz). It might be nice to have the radio squelched completely for voice reception (normal traffic) but "open up" when an alert occurs. Very few radios are equipped for this type of operation, so an "outboard" circuit is required. Included here is just such a circuit. It appeared in the February, 1977, issue of QST in an article by WB8IOW (Jerry Paquette). Some errors in the schematic have been corrected in my version printed here and the circuit should be fine now.

Basically the operation is thus: With the unit turned off, (and thus with the relay contacts open), the speaker is fed directly from the speaker terminals on the radio. The 15 ohm resistor is there to insure that the radio 'sees' a load regardless of the positions of the switch and relay contacts. So the speaker carries the normal audio. With the unit turned on, the receiver audio can drive the speaker only if the relay contacts are closed. The relay is driven by the upper part of the circuit.

The "audio in" for this part of the circuit is best taken from a constant level source such as across the volume control (two outer terminals) rather than from the speaker where the level is dependent on the volume setting. The level required here should be in the range of .05 to 1.0 volt for best operation. This audio drives an NE567 Tone Decoder chip. It will respond to the presence of the specified tone by causing pin 8 to go low (zero volts). The particular tone desired is set by adjusting the "Tone Set" control while monitoring the signal between pin 6 and ground with a frequency counter. (Set this for 1050 Hz)

When pin 8 goes low, the 10 mfd capacitor discharges thru the 91k resistor. As soon as that voltage gets low enough, the NE555 Timer chip causes its pin 3 to go high (from zero up to perhaps 6 volts) which causes the SCR (silicon controlled rectifier, HEP R1220 or equiv.) to conduct. Once it conducts, it will stay "on" pulling in the relay. This allows audio to drive the speaker.

Once the announcement is heard, the circuit may be reset by pressing the normally open, spring-loaded reset switch. The SCR will stop conducting and the relay will release.

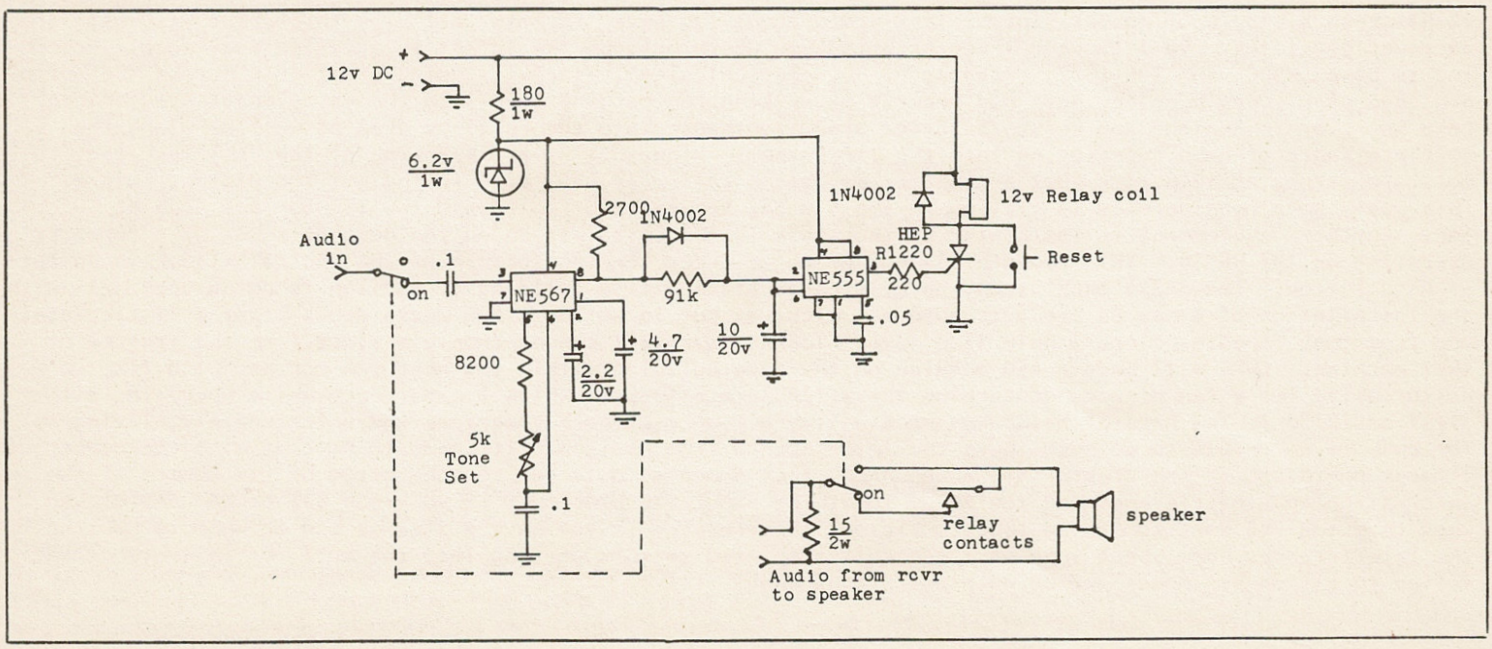
The 6.2 volt zener diode is used to provide a regulated source of voltage for the unit. The 12v DC can be whatever you use to run your receiver; that is, 12 plus or minus a couple volts is OK. The circuit layout is not at all critical, but a word on the components is in order. For the capacitors connected to pin 6 of both chips, use tantalum capacitors. These two are fairly critical and the tantalum variety are closer to ideal than ceramic or a typical electrolytic. This capacitor on the NE567 controls the range which the Tone Set control has. If you can't seem to dial-up the right frequency with the 5k pot, change the value of this capacitor. The capacitor on pin 6 of the NE555 controls how long the tone must be present to activate the unit. Make it larger for a longer time, smaller for shorter.

Most all the parts can be purchased at local outlets such as Radio Shack and substitutes or equivalents are fine, keeping in mind the above advice on capacitors. In fact, for a more professional appearance, the author provides a printed circuit board layout in the QST article.

For the component values given, the tone will have to be present for about one second in order for the unit to react. This eliminates false triggering by voice signals. One nice feature is that very little in the way of modification need be done to the "host" receiver. And the unit can be used with almost any receiver—2 meter, weather broadcast, standard AM or FM broadcast, etc.

Clearly one could adapt this unit to decode one tone from a (dual-tone) Touch-Tone pad, thus enabling the users to have a selectable calling facility. There are quite a few nice applications—just use your imagination.

Do you have any circuits, ideas, questions, comments? Send 'em in. 73, Steve, WA9VNJ



## Classified Ads

Advertising Rates effective for January, 1978, publication: Non-commercial ads are $.10/word including abbreviations and addresses. Commercial type ads appearing in this column are $.25/word. Complete phone numbers are considered as one (1) word. Ads will be published for two (2) consecutive issues. Unless otherwise noted, phone listings are considered as local Milwaukee numbers. Full remittance must accompany ad copy. To insure the maximum success of "FOR SALE" ads, all items must include the asking price. **Closing date** for ads is the 2nd of the publication month. **Direct ad copy and remittance to: Don Habeck, W9AMM, 5973 Sugarbush Lane, Greendale, Wis. 53129. Make all checks payable to THE HAMATEUR.**

FOR SALE: Heathkit HW-101 transciever very good condition, with AC-supply; $325. Contact Duane, W9GGN, 3725 Simonis, Stevens Point 341-1699

FOR SALE: Regency HR-2A interfaced with a factory wired GLB synthesizer. Included are 5 sets of crystals: 94 & 52 simplex and 31/91, 25/85 & 16/76, along with a 70 db filter. The above is set in and on the side of a PortaPak carrying case which holds a 12 volt motorcycle battery and charger. A detachable touch-tone phone pad set in a spectronic case goes along. Asking $315. Contact Larry McCalvy, WA9JMO, at 464-7449.

FOR SALE: Genave GTX10 2-mtr xcvr, 10-watt, 10-channel with factory netted crystals; $150. Also: Heath HW-12; $75. Contact Jim, K9WYB 481-2371

FOR SALE: Standard HT-146A, 2 months old, touch-tone and extras; $285 firm. Drake 2 mtr. Drake TR-22 w/touch-tone mic & extras; $150. Call 246-6690.

FOR SALE: 3000-volt, 750ma transformer; $45. Capacitor, 50mfd, 3200 volt; $15. Contact Clarence Wahner, W9YYY, 354-8093.

FOR SALE: Motorola HT 220 set up for 2 meters; $400. RCA 4 channel pocket scanner with repeater crystals and Ni-cad batteries; $60. Regency ARC-10R 10 channel scanner loaded with 2 meter crystals. Scanner covers 5 bands; $100. Contact Marlin, WD9AXH, at 354-1650. Will accept trades?????

FOR SALE: SWAN 250C, 6mtr SSB and AM, MINT with noise silencer; $275 or trade for ???? NPC 104 R 13.8 volt regulated 4amp continuous duty power supply; $30 or ???? Motorola HT-220 Slimline 2 freq.; $350 or ???? Contact Gregg, WD9DHI at 444-7232 (please leave no. if not in)

FOR SALE: Johnson Viking 275 match box with cables and Knight SWR/Power meter, covers 10-80 meters. Asking $65. Contact Larry McCalvy WA9JMO at 464-7449.

FOR SALE: Collins KWS-1; $550. Hammarlund HQ 170; $100. Both in storage most last 15 years. Both working. Will sell or trade for new transceiver. Call Don-W9ODZ, 784-0991.

the HAMATEUR

MAR. 1978

EDITOR: Larry McClvy WA9JMO
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## Meeting Notices

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| 07/67 | April 4 | Tuesday |
| Tri-County | April 9 | Sunday |
| Racine | April 10 | Monday |
| Ozaukee | April 12 | Wednesday |
| 6-MIC | April 12 | Wednesday |
| CQ3TUE | April 18 | Tuesday |
| 25/85 | April 18 | Tuesday |
| MRAC | April 20 | Thursday |
| Lakeshore | April 25 | Tuesday |
| 22/82 | April 27 | Thursday |
| QCWA | June 3 | Saturday |
| 31/91 | OPEN | |

## Upcoming Events

April 9.....Madison Swapfest
April 14....QCWA Nite at the Miller Inn
May 14.....MilW. UHF Society Swapfest
May 18.....MRAC's annual auction

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